AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for examining a sample containing cancer cells, comprising:

~~binding cancer cells~~ contacting a sample comprising at least one type of cells selected from the group consisting of leukemia cells, small intestinal cancer cells, gastric cancer cells, esophagus cancer cells, bile duct cancer cells, gallbladder cancer cells, thyroid cancer cells, parathyroid cancer cells, prostate cancer cells, uterine cancer cells, ovarian cancer cells, choriocarcinoma cells, orchioncus cells, bladder cancer cells, renal cancer cells, adrenal cancer cells, brain tumor cells, melanoma cells, skin cancer cells, lung cancer cells, breast cancer cells and pancreatic cancer cells separated from ~~the~~ a body~~, which cells express SF-25 antigen on their surfaces, to~~ with magnetic beads utilizing antigen-antibody reaction between said cancer cells and an anti-SF-25 antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof, then

collecting said magnetic beads by magnetic force to collect cells bound to said magnetic beads, and

examining said collected cancer cells which are bound to said magnetic beads, wherein cell binding to the magnetic beads is indicative of a cancer cell that expresses SF-25 antigen.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of binding said cancer cells to said magnetic beads is carried out by subjecting magnetic beads on which said anti-SF-25 antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof is immobilized and said cancer cells to antigen-antibody reaction, or by subjecting a labeled or non-labeled anti-SF-25 antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof and said cancer cells to antigen-antibody reaction, and subsequently thereto or simultaneously therewith, reacting magnetic beads on which a substance that specifically binds to the generated antigen-antibody complex is immobilized with the generated antigen-antibody complex.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said cancer cells are those contained in blood, cerebrospinal fluid, bone marrow, pleural effusion, ascites, pancreatic juice, duodenal juice, bile, feces or urine.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~claim 4~~ claim 1, wherein said cancer cells are leukemia cells, human gastric cancer cells, lung cancer cells, pancreatic cancer cells~~, colon cancer cells~~ or uterine cancer cells.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein said cancer cells are leukemic mononuclear cells.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the examination is an examination of nucleic acids.

8. - 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein said cancer cells are those contained in blood, cerebrospinal fluid, bone marrow, pleural effusion, ascites, pancreatic juice, bile, feces or urine.

11. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the examination is pathological examination.

12. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the examination is biochemical examination.

13. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein said examination of nucleic acid includes examination of at least one gene selected from the group consisting of HTLV-1, Rb, p53, WTI, APC, p1b, NFI, NF2, VHL, DPC-4, SMAD2, PTEN, PTC, int-2/hst-1/cycD1, MDM-2, erbB1, erbB2(neu), c-myc, N-myc, H-ras, K-ras, c-met, K-sam, AKT-1, AKT-2(S/T-PK), and Aurora-2(S/T-PK), EGF, VEGF, TGF-ß, annexin- I, 4F2 and PCD1.

14. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein said examination includes PCR.

15. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein said pathological examination includes at least one of examples of the detection of Philadelphia chromosome in chronic myelocytic leukemia, detection of signet-ring cell carcinoma observed in gastric cancer cells, detection of coffee bean-like morphology observed in the nuclei of cancer cells, and detections of tumor markers.

16. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein said biochemical examination includes at least one of measurements of tumor markers expressed by cancer cells via ELISA and measurements of isozymes expressed by cancer.